

REMARKS

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner enter the amendments made to claims 1, 2, 10, 11, 15, 17, 25 and 30 prior to examination of the subject application. Any inquiry regarding this matter should be directed to Craig J. Lervick at (612) 607-7387.

Respectfully submitted,

PHILIP A. KOEHLER ET AL.

By 

Craig J. Lervick, Reg. No. 35,244
Oppenheimer Wolff & Donnelly LLP
45 South Seventh Street
3400 Plaza VII
Minneapolis, MN 55402
Telephone: (612) 607-7387

Appendix A – Version with markings to show changes made

Application No. 09/698,009

1. (Amended) A laminating device for providing a reinforced region of material supply web, comprising:

- a primary feeding mechanism cooperating with a primary supply web for advancing a predetermined length of the primary supply web;
- a secondary feeding mechanism for advancing a predetermined length of secondary web;
- a cross web shearing apparatus positioned downstream from the secondary feeding mechanism for receiving the predetermined length of the secondary web, the cross web shearing apparatus including a shear blade positioned substantially perpendicular to the secondary material web and movable through a cutting motion to cause a reinforcing strip to be sheared from the secondary web;
- a handling drive positioned adjacent the shearing apparatus for receiving the reinforcing strip and moving it to a sealing location adjacent the base primary web; and
- a laminating device located proximate to the handling manifold for sealing the reinforcing strip to the base material web.

2. (Amended) The laminating device of claim 1 wherein the cross web shearing apparatus further comprises a support blade positioned substantially perpendicular to the shear blade and in a cutting relationship therewith such that the shear blade and the support blade cause the [hearing] shearing of the reinforcing strip.

10. (Amended) The laminating device of claim 1 further comprising a holding clamp positioned adjacent the cross web shear and the handling device, such that the holding [claim] clamp will hold the secondary web against the handling device prior to shearing the reinforcing strip.

11. (Amended) The laminating device of claim 10 wherein the holding clamp includes a holding tab movable between a feeding position and a holding position, wherein the holding tab allows the secondary web to be [feed] fed between the holding clamp and the handling device when the holding tab is in the feeding position while the holding tab holds the secondary web against the holding mechanism when the holding tab is in the holding position.

15. (Amended) The laminating device of claim 14 wherein the cam follower framework is moved [is] along a substantially linear path.

17. (Amended) The laminating device of claim 16 wherein the shear blade includes a plurality of cam tracks that cooperate with a plurality of cam followers which attached to a cam follower framework, wherein movement of the cam follower framework generates the cutting motion.

25. (Amended) A method for producing a reinforced web of material, comprising

- (a) providing a primary web of material
- (b) providing a secondary web of material, the secondary web of material making up a reinforcing material for attachment to the primary web;
- (c) cross web shearing a strip of the secondary web in a direction perpendicular to a direction of travel for the secondary web;
- (d) positioning the sheared strip of the secondary web adjacent to the primary web such that the sheared strip is substantially perpendicular to a direction of travel for the primary web; and
- (e) attaching the sheared strip to the primary web.

30. (Amended) The method of claim 29 wherein the cam pins cooperate with a plurality of cam tracks in the shear blade such that the step of actuating the shear blade includes moving the cam pins to [causes] cause them to travel along the cam tracks.